

YOUNG WIDOW WILL FIGHT FOR MILLIONS OF HER FATHER-IN-LAW

Disposition of Estate of Samuel S. Brown, Pittsburg Magnate, Reveals Scandal.

LEFT MUCH MONEY TO HIS LATEST PET

Girl at the Last Supplanted Wife of Dead Son in the Old Man's Affections—Will Was Made as He Lay on His Death Bed.

"Better an old man's darling than a young man's slave," runs the old song.

Probably Martha E. Lewis will concur, but Mrs. Grace McGoodwin Brown, daughter-in-law of the late Samuel S. Brown, Smoky City magnate and multi-millionaire, can hardly be expected to.

Idolized and petted by her father-in-law for 15 years, taught to consider herself his heiress, and introduced everywhere as his daughter, she finds herself left a paltry \$30,000, while her supplanter, Martha E. Lewis, has been given a sum exceeding \$250,000.

And a contest in the courts which will enrich lawyers and furnish sensations to satisfy the most scandal-hungry dame is promised.

For Mrs. Brown and all the relatives of the dead millionaire assert that his latest will, executed on his death bed, was made under undue influence and is unjust and unfair.

Worth Over \$20,000,000.

Samuel S. Brown died last December. He left an estate scattered all the way between Pittsburg, New York and New Orleans which is conservatively estimated at \$20,000,000. He also left a will which is the bone of contention.

Mrs. Brown, young widow of the dead magnate's only son, had been told that she was to be his beneficiary. A goodly portion of the estate was to have been hers. Yet, when the will was read, she found herself cut off with a paltry batch of brewery bonds, and these to go should she remarry.

But Miss Lewis, bitter enemy of the millionaire's daughter-in-law, benefited to the extent of a quarter of a million and more. She had already supplanted the beautiful Kentucky belle as the head of the old man's household before his death. That was the last straw; then came the open breach.

It is a strange story—how these two young women came into the life of the millionaire. There were a son and a daughter whom the old man

Pittsburg, Pa.
William Brown, Princeton, Ky.
Wait. I am coming down that way this week.
S. S. BROWN.
For an answer this came back:
Can't wait.
WILL.

And this was the reply:
All right. Go ahead. God bless you both. Bring her home.
FATHER.

But it was not so fated. Will Brown, undisputed heir to the larger share of his father's millions, did not bring his bride home. She brought him home—in a coffin. Almost the next day he fell ill and was dead within a week. The bride-widow, almost ill with her grief, met her father-in-law and went straight to his heart.

"You must stay here with us, my dear," said the millionaire, "and be my daughter, too. I know Will would have wished it so."

Old Man's Daughter Dead.

So the girl stayed along with the old man, and year after year made herself better loved by him. Then came another blow—his only living child, his daughter Nellie, died in Italy.

"I am afraid my poor old heart will break," said the old man, bowed under this added weight of woe.

There was no one to turn to save his daughter-in-law now. He called her to him one day soon after the funeral, and said:

"Stay here with me, for I am left alone. Be the head of my household, and when I die you will be the same in my will as if you were my own daughter. And why not? Are you not the wife of my dead son, my only boy?"

But the girl did not need this promise. She loved the old man as the father of her boy husband. Her sister came to live with them and she took her place at the head of the Brown household. The servants were instructed to obey her in everything, and wherever she went she was introduced by the millionaire as "my daughter Grace, my son's widow, dear to me as my own."

Everywhere it was understood that the young widow was to be his heiress. Folks were told that Mr. Brown's

mentor when he went to New York on matters social.

Martha E. Lewis was the daughter of a boat caulker employed by Mr. Brown. When only a child in short dresses the millionaire had taken to her because she reminded him of his dead daughter when she was a tiny girl. When she grew older he made her his almoner in his many charities, and when she was out of her teens he had her made secretary of the Sunday school which he had endowed.

Gifts were showered upon her just as the were upon Miss Grace Brown. For awhile things went along smoothly enough on the surface, but Mrs. Brown gradually discovered that she was being undermined. Miss Lewis finally got control of the establishment and ran it with an iron hand.

Family Makes Objections.

The other Browns—brothers, cousins and nephews—didn't like this at all. They demanded that Miss Lewis be at least sent to live elsewhere and that Mrs. Grace Brown be brought back from Kentucky, where she had gone, to give tone to the household.

"Not for a minute," retorted the old man. "Grace has chosen to live away

had long been in love. In fact, they loved each other before he was taken ill.

Here were the provisions of the will concerning the young women in the case:

Bequests to Martha Lewis.

Second—"I give and bequeath to the Union Trust company of Pittsburg first mortgage bonds of the Pittsburg Brewing company to the aggregate value of \$20,000, in trust nevertheless, to pay the net interest and income therefrom to my daughter-in-law Grace M. Brown for and during the term of her natural life. If she so long remain a widow and from and after her marriage or death, in further trust to divide or distribute the principal of said trust fund to the persons hereinafter provided for in the case of my residuary estate, and I authorize and empower said trustee, to sell said bonds, and to reinvest the proceeds of sale at its discretion."

In striking contrast with this are the clauses in which Miss Lewis benefits in the following sections of the same will:

Ninth—"I give and bequeath to Miss Martha E. Lewis, of the city of Pittsburg, one-half of the residue of my library wherever the same may be situated at the appraised value thereof, she to have the right to select books to the amount of one-half, I also give and bequeath to the said Martha E. Lewis my Astoria States Racing trophy and the box of silverware which I re-



from me and I will not trouble her." Apparently, however, the aged millionaire was still fond of his son's widow. She spent a part of the season with Mr. Brown last year and as the Christmas holidays were approaching she received a hurried call to come to the old man's bedside.

He was dying. The young widow caught the first train. But as she sped through the darkness another will was being made in Pittsburg in the old Brown mansion. With a few strokes of the pen all she had believed was to be hers was blotted out. But no one told her this when she reached Pittsburg the next morning.

Young Mrs. Brown was received with open arms. Twenty days later Samuel S. Brown died. During those 20 days the deathbed will did not come to light. Mrs. Brown's friends say that it was purposely hidden so that she would know nothing about it until it should be too late. The millionaire died, surrounded by his family, while Mrs. Brown knelt at the bedside.

Will Kept Secret.

Never were greater efforts made to keep a will from becoming public. It was filed secretly. The authorities were ordered to keep it secret and meekly complied. The family lawyer furnished an extract to the newspapers, but all reference to either of the young women in the case was carefully eliminated.

"That's all we care to give out to the newspapers," was the lawyer's curt rejoinder when pressed for an explanation.

But the New York Sunday World's correspondent in Pittsburg made things so interesting for all concerned that finally the entire contents of the will were made public as provided by law.

Then the storm broke. The feud became public property. Promptly there came a demand from the officers of the Mary Brown church that Miss Lewis resign her position in the Sunday school.

Forced to Leave Sunday School. The church had Mr. Brown's \$70,000. They cared no longer. They had bowed to his will in life, and they had installed his protegee to a position of distinction in church affairs. Now they would have no more of her. At a public hearing she was asked to resign, and she did.

Then she announced that she intended marrying and that was her ostensible reason for retiring. She and William Arthur Porter, a race-track employee of old man Brown's,

cently purchased from Heron Bros. & Co.,

Tenth—"I also give and bequeath to Miss Martha E. Lewis aforesaid, first mortgage bonds of the Pittsburg Brewing company to the aggregate value of \$20,000, which I direct shall be delivered to her by my executors within 30 days after my death; and if for any reason the said bonds are not delivered within the period aforesaid, I direct my executors to pay to her on the first day of the month following my death the sum of \$125 and a like sum monthly thereafter until said bonds are delivered to her."

The library from which Miss Lewis was empowered by the will to select one-half of the books is worth \$50,000, and one of the most complete libraries in the city. The Astoria racing plate, which also went to Miss Lewis, was of gold, valued at \$10,000. It was won by Sue Smith.

Received Many Presents.

By the will Miss Lewis got in all \$60,000. This was only a small portion of her benefits. When she was 23—her last birthday—Mr. Brown handed the delighted girl \$20,000 in new bills. Only a few months before he had given her a beautiful big house on Greenfield avenue, worth \$20,000. This is where the bride will live when she returns from her honeymoon. She got \$20,000 worth of diamonds, too, and in all \$125,000 in cash, says Mrs. Brown's friends, before the old man's death.

The Browns have taken the daughter-in-law to their hearts. She is again mistress of the old Brown mansion, there to stay as long as she pleases. W. Harry Brown, the brother, even wealthier than S. S. Brown, who inherits the bulk of the estate, is understood to be against Miss Lewis' claim.

There was a tragic scene when the will was read. Mrs. Elizabeth Wilford, sister of the dead man, knew nothing of it. When she heard it gave the young widow but \$30,000 in beer bonds she burst out weeping and ran from the room crying: "Oh, Samuel, how could you have done this thing?"

A strange feature of this strange case is that the millionaire provided better for the young widow after her death than during her life. A niche by his direction has been reserved for her in the rich marble mausoleum out at the cemetery. There she will rest with the others of the family's dead.

And whether an old man's fickle fancy changed at the last or a designing girl succeeded in a plot to secure wealth at the expense of reputation and standing in society, is the question.

Probably it will be answered in the courts.



THE WHITE GRUB.

Insect Which Attacks the Strawberry Plant and How to Combat the Pest.

In strawberry fields, planted on sod-land, plants are often injured by white grubs, the larvae of the May beetle or June bug. No remedy has proved effective, since the grubs are always below the surface. The only satisfactory method is prevention. No



THE BEETLE AND THE LARVAE.

old sod land should be used for a strawberry field.

Where such a field must be used it should be fall plowed, at least two seasons previous to planting with strawberries and some such crop as early cabbage, followed by crimson clover to be fall plowed and the land immediately sown to buckwheat or rye for a winter cover crop. The following spring, after plowing, says the Orange Judd Farmer, should be a safe time to set the berry plants. From then forward frequent rotation of short period crops will keep the field free, particularly if the land is more or less bare in late spring and early summer, when the eggs are laid.

SEED BED FOR THE GARDEN

Preparation of the Soil Determines What the Success Will Be with Plants.

With a view of preparing the most suitable seed bed possible for our garden, which is too often neglected upon many farms, we first went over it twice with a sharp disk harrow, the same day it was plowed to a depth of between six and seven inches.

One day's sun was allowed in which to dry off the surface of the soil so that it would not pack under the horses' feet. Then a float was run over it several times, and again twice disked, and again the float until the surface was level and perfectly fine. This manner of working has given a fine loose seed bed the depth of the plowing, which will retain moisture better, cause the plant food to be available to the plants, and will be especially favorable to strong rapid germination of all garden seeds.

By this method, says the Prairie Farmer, the plant requires the least possible effort upon the part of the young plants to send out roots and afford connection with the soil. With this preparation we can reasonably expect cultivation to be more effectively and quickly done than if the under soil was full of large clods.

SEED CORN.

The outlook for the farmer who speculates continues to be bad.

It's handy to have a ladder long enough to reach from the barn floor to the peak of the roof.

A nail here and a screw there, and the setting up of a slanting post, take little time or trouble, and make the place look "lots better."

When you are through using the grindstone, let the trough down so that the lower part of the stone will not rest in the water. If you do not, you will soon have a soft spot in your stone where the water touches it.

The farmer boy has the best chance in life and is usually able to fill every position that is open. He does in his youth the hard, difficult things that call for pluck, a sound body and a fertile brain. Three cheers for the farmer boy.

Drains in Barnyards.

Drains in barnyards should not be sub-earth drains unless the soil of the barnyard is of a soft, loose texture. Wherever the barnyard is composed of a compacting soil, such as ordinary soil suitable for tillage purposes, the drain laid two or three feet under the surface will quickly become useless. The stock soon tramp the ground into such a hard mass that it becomes impervious to water, and the latter cannot get down to the drain. If a drain is to be laid under the surface it should be run so close to the fence or the buildings that the stock cannot walk on top of it. The rest of the land should slope in the direction of the drain. Surface drains, says the Farmer's Review, are always adapted to barnyards, but these also should be run near the fences or barns.

A Thought Ahead.

Do you remember in what condition you put away those haying and harvesting machines? Did they not need some repairing? Sometimes, says the Farm Journal, it takes three or four weeks to get the needed articles for the repairs, and if you delay ordering, your machine may be worthless junk to you when the time comes to use it.

For Wet Land.

If you have wet land, too wet for crops and not easily drained, it should be plowed in a very dry time, says Farm Journal, thoroughly harrowed and seeded to red top (herd's-grass) and alsike clover.

COST OF PRODUCTION.

The Way the Farmer Can Learn Which Department Is Paying Him Profit.

Before any man engaged in business of any kind can know whether or not his business is paying him a profit above the cost of production, he must determine what is the cost of production. This is always done by merchants and manufacturers, and rarely done by farmers. Yet there is no class of business men who need careful accounts more than the farmer if he wishes to prosper and not merely drift. For the farmer, who is in reality conducting several businesses at once, may be losing in one department what he is making in another. He depends upon the size of his bank account or the condition of the family mortgage to measure his success. One man who had been keeping his books on the barn door plan for a number of years was induced to make accurate account of every kind of work done on his farm. He found that his beef cattle, his hogs and his wheat field were all losing ventures; that the dairy paid a fair profit, and that the poultry department was the most profitable of all. Who can deny in the face of such a revelation that knowledge is power?

A great many farmers would like to know what a bushel of corn costs, or a gallon of milk, or a pound of live pork, but they are either too indolent or too ignorant to get down to business and find out.

Take first an inventory of all property; then record cost of articles purchased and the price received for every species of produce sold. It then requires an estimate, based upon market values, of every item produced upon the farm. It means a proper valuation being placed upon one's own labor; an estimate for rent or interest; insurance; depreciation in value of stock and merchandise; wear and tear. After some study of the matter every man will evolve a scheme which seems best suited to his own needs.

Mr. F. H. Scribner of Rosendale, Wis., is a business farmer, says the Farmers' Voice. He has a herd of 65 beautiful Jerseys, all registered and many of them prize winners. He has 80 acres of land which at one time wouldn't grow weeds, but now is near the top notch of fertility. At our request he has furnished a few figures which will be of interest, both as to their absolute value to the farmer and stockman and also as showing how careful business methods are rewarded by a satisfactory ledger balance.

Figures for the year 1905:

Pounds of milk produced.....	125,646
Gallons of milk produced.....	16,704
Pounds of milk per gallon.....	8.5
Feed cost to produce.....	\$770
Labor of milking.....	350
Average cost of keep of cows per year.....	35
Cost per gallon of milk.....	5 1/2c
Pasture is figured at 25 cents per week per head.	
Silage is figured at \$1.50 per ton.	
Brass cost \$15 per ton.	
Gluten feed cost \$22 per ton.	
Hay is figured at \$8 per ton.	

Labor of feeding and caring for stock is estimated to offset the value of manure obtained.

We want to hear from other farmers who have kept accounts. Send us a brief report of your experience, together with the balance sheet, showing in figures just what your farm has done for you.

A PROFITABLE IMPLEMENT.

How a Split Log Can Be Made to Level the Soil While Crushing Clods.

On soil that is inclined to lump up some implement must be used which will level the soil readily, and at the same time crush the clods. Such an implement can readily be made at home and be quite as effective as those



THE SPLIT LOG SOIL PULVERIZER.

which must be bought for the purpose, if one has a leaning toward manufactured articles. This home-made clod crusher and soil leveler can be made of a log of hard wood by splitting it in half. The log should be about two feet in diameter to work to the best advantage. Lay the two halves of the log side by side with the rounding part down and at either end, about a foot from the end, spike a two by four strip, letting them project out sufficiently far at one side so that an iron strip or hoop may be set over the ends, into which to hook the whiffletree chains. This implement can be made at small cost, says the Indianapolis News, and unless the logs are too heavy a good team of horses can handle it nicely. The illustration shows the idea clearly and how very simple it is.

Test of Alfalfa.

In a test of alfalfa seed grown in different states it was found that alfalfa grown from seed of southern states, as California and Arizona, winter-killed, while alfalfa from Kansas and Utah seed withstood the winters successfully. Alfalfa from Peru also winter-killed, but both Turkestan and Samarkand alfalfa withstood the winters in perfect condition, even better than common alfalfa. In ordinary years Turkestan has yielded about the same as common alfalfa, but during a dry year Turkestan alfalfa gave a considerably better yield than the ordinary alfalfa and is no doubt well adapted to a dry climate.



Idolized. When they grew up nothing was too good for them.

Inception of Romance.

Fifteen years ago William Brown, the millionaire's only son, was sent to Kentucky to superintend the building of a railroad in which his father was interested. There he met a blue grass belle—beautiful Grace McGoodwin, barely turned 16.

The boy's head was turned. It was plainly love at first sight. There was an ardent courtship, and the youthful suitor won. That day there came to the old man in Pittsburg this dispatch:

Princeton, Ky.
S. S. Brown, Pittsburg, Pa.:
I am going to be married to the dearest girl in the world.
WILL.

That same day this wire went back to Kentucky:

Martha Lewis Appears.

Mrs. Brown's sister married and she went back to Kentucky with her for a visit. That was the beginning of the end. When she returned she found that Miss Lewis had been asked to live at the Browns'.

"Grace," said the old millionaire, by way of making clear how things stood, "just take Marty and buy her some things, and show her how to wear them."

"Marty" was what Mr. Brown elected to call the pretty girl he had installed as his protegee in the big house. Young Mrs. Brown balked some, but she did as she was told. But she refused to introduce the girl to her friends, and she still was Mr. Brown's